

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 06877 222221Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 DODE-00 ICAE-00
/053 W

-----032779 222226Z /61

O 222132Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3147

WHITE HOUSE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6877

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC PASTOR

SECSTATE FOR ARA ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR OAS BL VE US

SUBJECT: VENEZUELA PRESIDENT ASKS PRESIDENT CARTER TO
CONSIDER ASKING OAS TO URGE THAT NEW ELECTIONS BE HELD
IN BOLIVIA

1. FONMIN CONSALVI AT 1400 ON JULY 22, 1978, HANDED
OVER LETTER DATED JULY 22 FROM PRESIDENT PEREZ TO
PRESIDENT CARTER WITH THE REQUEST THAT EMBASSY FORWARD
TEXT ASAP TO WASHINGTON. FONMIN ALSO SAID GOV WILL MAKE
PULIC STATEMENT AFTERNOON JULY 22 ABOUT BOLIVIAN
SITUATION (SEPTTEL).

2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: DR MR PRESIDENT:

ONCE MORE THE EFFORT WHICH WE, SEVERAL NATIONS OF THE HEMISPHERE,
ARE MAKING TO SET RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ON A FIRM BASE THROUGH
THE FULL OPERATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY,
IS BEING PUT TO A SEVERE TEST.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CARACA 06877 222221Z

THE PERSEVERING AND ADMIRABLE ACTION CARRIED OUT
PRINCIPALLY BY YOU IN DEFENSE OF THE LIBERTY AND
DIGNITY OF PEOPLES, HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTING VERY
EFFECTIVELY TO THE OPENING OF NEW PATHS TOWARD THE
DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA
WHICH ARE SUBJECTED TO MILITARY GOVERNMENTS. THE
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ELECTIONS FOR THE CONSTITUENT

ASSEMBLE IN PERU, ALREADY CARRIED OUT; IN BOLIVIA AND ECUADOR, FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER NEWS THAT OPENS HOPEFUL PROSPECTS FOR THE NATIONS OF THE CONTINENT, WERE THE REASON FOR FRANK AND EXPLAINABLE OPTIMISM. THE SAME REACTION WHICH WE GOT TO AKKING THAT THE ELECTORAL RESULTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC BE RESPECTED, CREATING A VIGOUROUS MOVEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION IN SUPPORT OF THE ELECTORAL RESULTS IN THAT REPUBLIC, CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASING OUR CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESSES IN LATIN AMERICA. THE RESULTS IN ECUADOR, DESPITE ALL THE SURROUNDING WORRISOM CIRCUMSTANCES, HAVE STIMULATED OUR RESOLVE.

TODAY'S NEWS ABOUT THE ISOLENT MILITARY COUP IN BOLIVIA FILLS US WITH CONSTERNATION. A SIMILAR DECEIT TOWARD INTERNATIONAL OPINION IS INCONCEIVABLE. THE DAY AFTER HE CALLED FOR THE ANNULLMENT OF A VITIATED ELECTORAL PROCESS AND NEW ELECTIONS, WITHOUT RESPECT FOR OR ANY OBSERVANCE OF COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN, HE ASSUMES POWER MILITARILY IN BOLIVIA.

I AM NOT SURPRISED BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES BEING EXPERIENCED BY THAT COUNTRY NOR BY THE UNUSUAL BEHAVIOR OF BOLIVIAN DEMOCRATIC SECTORS, ALLIED TO EXTREMIST GROUPS IN AN UNCONCEALABLE PROVOCATION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 CARACA 06877 222221Z

THE ARMED FORCES ACCUSTOMED TO PREDOMINANCE.

NEVERTHELESS, I BELEIVE THAT ALLOWING THIS SHAMELESS TRAMPLINGOF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION AND OF THE GOOD FAITH OF A PEOPLE THAT BELIEVED IN THE PROMISE OF A RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC, INSTITUTIONAL NORMALITY WOULD BE A REGRETTABLE PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD DESTROY ALL THE EFFORT MADE WITH GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF LATIN AMERICA.

AS PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO MUTUAL CONSULTATION, I SUGGEST TO YOU THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING THIS CASE BEFORE THE OAS TO ASK THAT IT URGE GENERAL PEREDA TO CARRY OUT THE DECISION OF THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL JUNTA TO HOLD NEW ELECTIONS IN BOLIVIA. ALTHOUGH WITHOUT MUCH HOPE FOR THE RESULTS, I BELIEVE THAT THE SILENCING OF ANY REACTION WILL CANCEL THE GROUND TAINED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTINENT.

I WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR OPINION

SOON AND LEARNING OF THE POSSIBILITIES FOR JOINT

ACTION.

CORDIALLY, CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ.

END QUOTE

3. ORIGINAL OF LETTER BEING POUCHED TO SERGEANT (ARA/AND/V).

CROWLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780302-0468
Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780730/aaaaazhl.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 82a28a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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To: STATE WHITE HOUSE
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